

Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 - 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) A guide wire comprising:

an elongate wire including a core having an outer surface having an area per unit length, a tubular layer disposed about the core having an inner surface having an area per unit length of no more than the area per unit length of the outer surface of the core, wherein a portion of the layer has a topology selected from the topology of a single-lumen tube or the topology of a single-lumen tube having a slit,

wherein the elongate wire has a first property over a first portion and a second property over a second portion, wherein the first property is different from the second property, and wherein the elongate wire is formed into a coil.

30. (Previously Presented) The guide wire of claim 29, wherein said first and second properties are selected from the group consisting of radiopacity, lubricity, hydrophilicity, hemocompatibility, flexibility, malleability, stiffness, and shape memory.

31. (Previously Presented) The guide wire of claim 29, wherein at least some of said first property is provided by the layer.

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32. (Previously Presented) The guide wire of claim 29, wherein the layer is a sleeve.
33. (Previously Presented) The guide wire of claim 32, wherein the sleeve is polymeric.
34. (Previously Presented) The guide wire of claim 29, wherein the layer is a material coating.
35. (Previously Presented) The guide wire of claim 34, wherein the coating comprises a different material than the core.
36. (Previously Presented) The guide wire of claim 29, wherein the elongate wire further comprises a second layer disposed on a portion of the core free from the first layer.
37. (Previously Presented) The guide wire of claim 36, wherein the first layer and the second layer alternate.
38. (Previously Presented) The guide wire of claim 29, wherein the first layer is disposed on noncontiguous portions of the core

39. (Previously Presented) A guide wire as in claim 29, wherein the first and second properties differ in radiopacity from each other.

40. (Previously Presented) A guide wire as in claim 29, wherein the coil is helically disposed about a guide wire distal portion.

41. (Previously Presented) A guide wire as in claim 29, wherein the pitch of the coil at a first section is different than the pitch of the coil at a second section.

42. (New) A guidewire having a distal end portion provided with radiation impermeability and flexibility, comprising:

a core wire having a distal end portion and a proximal end portion and a circular cross-section decreasing in diameter at the distal end portion toward a distal end of the core wire, and

a coil wire having a constant diameter provided coaxially with the core wire and provided on the distal end portion of the core wire, the coil wire including a first wire of different constituent materials.

43. (New) A guide wire according to claim 42, wherein the coil wire includes a wire, a distal end portion of which is formed of a radiation impermeable material and a remaining portion of which is formed of a radiation permeable and elastic material.

44. (New) A guide wire according to claim 43, wherein the radiation impermeable material of the first wire is at least one metal selected from the group consisting of platinum, gold and iridium.

45. (New) A guide wire according to claim 43, wherein the radiation impermeable and elastic material of the second wire is one metal selected from the group consisting of tungsten, and an alloy containing tungsten as a main component as a main component.

46. (New) A guide wire according to claim 42, wherein the coil wire includes a first wire, a distal end portion of which is formed of a radiation impermeable material and a remaining portion of which is formed of a radiation permeable and elastic material.

47. (New) A guide wire according to claim 46, wherein the radiation impermeable material of the wire is at least one metal selected from the group consisting of platinum, gold and iridium.

48. (New) A guide wire according to claim 46, wherein the radiation impermeable material of the wire is at least one metal selected from the group consisting of platinum, gold, and tungsten.

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49. (New) A guidewire according to claim 42, wherein the coil wire includes a first wire, a distal portion of which is formed of a radiation impermeable material and a remaining portion of which is formed of a radiation permeable and elastic material.